

Manage Over Wintering Plan to Eliminate Livestock Concentration Concerns, Prevent Erosion, Protect Water Quality, and Improve Forage Quality

Definition

This consists of wintering livestock on a portion of the pasture, as opposed to wintering them on a feedlot.

Purpose

The purposes of this enhancement are to:

1. to avoid the development of a manure pack where livestock are housed and fed during the non-grazing season,
2. to utilize the nutrients in the manure, urine, and feed wastes by actively growing forages the following spring,
3. to enhance the organic matter content of the soil for improved forage production.

Where Used

This enhancement is used in pastures with Prescribed Grazing.

Operation and Maintenance

The following criteria must be met:

1. The over wintering site must be located on areas of well established sod.
2. Feed must be spread in a pattern over the area to avoid the creation of a manure pack (manure build-up thick enough to prevent the emergence of the perennial vegetation in the area).
3. The site must not be located within sensitive landscape features, designated shoreland areas, 100 year floodplains, 300 feet of a sinkhole, 100 feet of a private well, or 1,000 feet of a community water supply.
4. The stock density on an over wintering site will be approximately 10,000 pounds of herd weight per acre.
5. The over wintering site must be rotated in such a manner that it will not be on the same site more often than once every 5 years.

Payment Rate

A payment for managing an over wintering plan.

Documentation Required

Each year the producer will provide a map indicating the location of the over wintering site along with notation of the numbers of as well as the kind and class of livestock, and the average weight of the livestock in each of the classes. The map must also indicate locations of sensitive features such as streams, ponds, wetlands, springs and seeps, floodplains, wells, and gravel pits.

Signature: _____ Date: _____